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General Assembly

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Agenda item 13 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 3 June 2015

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.72)*]

69/282. World Statistics Day

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 64/267 of 3 June 2010, in which 20 October 2010 was designated as World Statistics Day under the general theme "Celebrating the many achievements of official statistics",

Recalling also decision 45/113 of the Statistical Commission at its forty-fifth session,[1] in which the Commission endorsed the proposal to celebrate 20 October 2015 as World Statistics Day, and the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on the preparations,[2]

Reaffirming its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of its annex on the agreed criteria for their proclamation, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, stating that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Recognizing the long history of official statistics and the facilitating role played by the United Nations since the creation in 1947 of the Statistical Commission, which was tasked with promoting the development of national statistics and improving their comparability, coordinating the statistical work of specialized agencies, developing central statistical services of the Secretariat, advising the organs of the United Nations on general questions relating to the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical information and promoting the improvement of statistics and statistical methods generally,

Acknowledging the fundamental importance of sustainable national statistical capacity to produce reliable and timely statistics and indicators measuring a country's progress,

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 4* (E/2014/24), chap. I.B.
[2] E/CN.3/2015/28.

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Bearing in mind the critical role of high-quality official statistical information in analysis and informed policy decision-making in support of sustainable development,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/6 of 24 July 2006, entitled "Strengthening statistical capacity", in which the Council called upon Member States, the United Nations system, international agencies, donor countries and organizations to support national efforts in building and strengthening national statistical capacity, in particular of developing countries,

Recalling also its resolution 68/261 of 29 January 2014, in which the General Assembly endorsed the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, a milestone in the codification and promotion of basic values in official statistics,

Noting that the first World Statistics Day, held on 20 October 2010, was an overwhelming success, with activities organized in more than 130 Member States and by at least 40 international and regional organizations and entities,

Noting also that 2015 marks the bicentenary of the birth of George Boole, whose work on the application of the principles of logic as a form of algebra underpins modern computer science and which form of algebra today bears his name,

Noting further that some Member States and regions already celebrate official statistics through a variety of national and regional initiatives, such as designated months, weeks, days or events, and welcoming their support and willingness to coordinate such events under the auspices of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to designate 20 October 2015 as the second World Statistics Day under the general theme "Better data, better lives";

2. *Also decides* to celebrate World Statistics Day every five years on 20 October;

3. *Invites* all Member States, members of United Nations specialized agencies, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, such as research institutions, media and all producers and users of official statistics, to observe World Statistics Day in an appropriate manner;

4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures for the observance by the United Nations of World Statistics Day in 2015 and to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, members of United Nations specialized agencies and United Nations organizations.

92nd plenary meeting
3 June 2015